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EXAMINER	
SARPONG, AKWASI	
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2625	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/673,207	KANG ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	AKWASI M. SARPONG	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *05 August 2009*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,6,7,9-34 and 36-42* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) *14-34 and 36-38* is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,6,7,9-34 and 36-42* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *30 September 2003* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *10/27/2005*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 1 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. Applicant claims that "the storage unit is selectively connected to one of the scanning unit and the printing unit". However the applicant fails to describe how a user can select to connect either the storage to the scanner or the storage to the printer for an ordinary skilled in the art to use the image forming apparatus. Understand that the image forming apparatus is one unit that has a scanning and printing unit.

2. Claim 7 is also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 first paragraph because it depend on Claim 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. Claims 9 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Applicant claims in the above mentioned claims wherein the scanning and/or printing unit prints the scanned result directly read from the storage units and again the scanned result is directly read from the storage unit. However the specification says that the scanned result is read from the storage unit. Since there is a difference between reading from the storage unit and directly reading from, the applicant does not have support for the limitation that the scanned result is directly read from the storage unit.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 9 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant claims in claims 9 and 13 " a scanning and/or printing apparatus" It is not clear to the examiner whether the image forming apparatus comprise of (a scanning and a printing unit) **or** ((a scanning unit) or (a printing unit)). Correction is recommended.

4. Claims 10,11 and 12 are also rejected under second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112 because they depend on Claims 9 which is rejected earlier.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 1, 6, 7, 9, 10-13 and 39-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Mitsubori (2002/0114002).

Claim 1, Mitsubori discloses an image forming apparatus **(Fig. 8 shows a an image forming apparatus)** comprising:

a scanning unit **(Scanner 12 shown in fig. 9)** scanning a document and outputting a scanned result **(Section 0116, lines 5-7-thus the scanned results are read out into the memory 113).**

a storage unit **(web server 20 shown in Fig. 8)** storing the scanned result inputted from the scanning unit **(section 0115, lines 12-16- thus the scanned image is stored in the web server after it is scanned)** and

a printing unit **(Printer 40 shown in fig. 8)** reading the scanned result from the storage unit to print the scanned result. **(Printer 40 shown in Fig. 8, Section 0115- thus printer 40 prints the scanned images)**

a first connector connecting the storage unit to the scanning unit; **(Fig. 8 shows clearly a connection between scanner 12 and server 20)** and

a second Connector connecting the storage unit to the printing unit, **(Fig. 8 shows clearly a connection between Printer 40 and server 20)**

wherein the scanning unit **(Scanner 12 shown in Fig. 8)** comprises:

an input/output port **(Section 0116, lines 9-10- thus the network interface 128 is used to receive and transmit images)**

a scanning control unit **(CPU 121 shown in Fig. 9)** outputting the scanned result to the storage unit through the input/output port and the first connector **(Section 0116, lines 7-10- thus the scanned image data is transmitted through the network interface to other external equipment for further processing)**

a display unit **(fig. 19 is a display that shows the list of scanned images)** displaying the scanned result **(Section 0131 lines 7-8- thus the list shown is a list of images that has been scanned)** and

a key unit **(Operating panel 125 shown in fig. 9)** generating at least one of a searching signal, **(Section 0123, lines 8-11- thus the user press the virtual button to search for the image data to be outputted from the web)** a deleting signal, and a selecting signal.

wherein the storage unit **(server 20)** is selectively connected to one of the scanning unit and the printing unit, **(fig. 8 shows clearly that printers 40a and scanner 12 are selectively connected to server 20 since any of the scanners and printer can be disconnected and connected as well - thus understand that Scanner 12 and**

printers (40 a, b and c) is the same printer 40 and scanner 12 shown in Fig. 8) as and wherein the scanning control unit scrolls the scanned result displayed on the display unit **(Section 0126 lines 28-31- thus the Fig. 19 shows scanned images)** according to the searching signal of the key unit, deletes the scanned result according to the deleting signal of the key unit, selects the scanned result according to the selecting signal of the key unit, **(Section 0126, lines 28-31- thus the user uses the virtual buttons to the select one of the image data outputted as shown clearly in Fig. 17.)** and generates a control signal to control the display unit to display the scanned result key unit and generates a control signal to control the display unit to display the scanned result. **(Fig. 19 shows a display that outputs files or images that has been scanned as a result of the user pressing the virtual button which generated a control signal).**

Claim 6, Mitsubori discloses an image forming apparatus, **(Fig. 8 shows a an image forming apparatus)** comprising: a scanning unit **(Scanner 12 shown in fig. 9)** scanning a document and outputting a scanned result **(Section 0116, lines 5-7-thus the scanned results are read out into the memory 113).**

a storage unit **(web server 20 shown in Fig. 8)** storing the scanned result inputted from the scanning unit **(section 0115, lines 12-16- thus the scanned image is stored in the web server after it is scanned).**

a printing unit **(Printer 11 shown in fig. 1)** reading the scanned result from the storage unit to print the scanned result. **(Printer 11 shown in Fig. 2, Section 0115- thus printer 40 prints the scanned images)**.

a first connector connecting the storage unit to the scanning unit; **(Fig. 8 shows clearly a connection between scanner 12 and server 20)** and a second connector connecting the storage unit to the printing unit **(Fig. 8 shows clearly a connection between Printer 11 and server 20)**.

wherein the printing unit **(El. 11 shown in fig. 1)** comprises an input/output port; **(network interface 118 shown in Fig. 2)**

a printing control unit reading the scanned result inputted from the storage unit through the input/output port and the second connector to print the scanned result. **(Section 0115- thus the printer prints the image data scanned by the scanner and therefore it has to be outputted from the scanned into the printer for it to be printed)**

a display unit **(fig. 19 is a display that shows the list of scanned images)** displaying the scanned result read from the storage unit and inputted through the input/output port; **(Section 0131 lines 7-8- thus the list shown is a list of images that has been scanned)** and a key unit **(Operating panel 125 shown in fig. 9)** generating at least one of a searching signal, **(Section 0123, lines 8-11- thus the user press the virtual button to search for the image data to be outputted from the web)** a deleting signal, and a selecting signal.

wherein the storage unit **(server 20)** is selectively connected to one of the scanning unit and the printing unit, **(fig. 8 shows clearly that printers 40a and scanner 12 are selectively connected to server 20- thus understand that Scanner 12 and printers (40 a, b and c) is the same printer 40 and scanner 12 shown in Fig. 8)** and the printing control unit **(CPU 111 shown in fig. 2)** scrolls the scanned result displayed on the second display unit according to the searching signal of the key unit, **(Section 111 thus the CPU controls all the operations of the Printing unit 11 and therefore controls the images that are displayed on the display unit)** deletes the scanned result according to the deleting signal of the key unit, selects the scanned result according to the selecting signal of the key unit, and generates a control signal to control the display unit to display the scanned result. **(Fig. 19 shows a display that outputs files or images that has been scanned and about to be printed as a result of the user pressing the virtual button which generated a control signal).**

Claim 8, - (Cancelled).

Claim 9, Mitsubori discloses an image forming apparatus **(Fig. 8 shows a an image forming apparatus)** comprising:

a scanning and/or printing unit **(El. 11 shown in fig. 2)** scanning a document and printing the scanned result **(Section 0116, lines 5-7-thus the scanned results are read out into the memory 113)**

and a plurality of storage units **(RAM 113 and Hard disk 114 shown in Fig. 2)** storing

the scanned result inputted from the scanning and/or printing unit, **(Section 0115, lines 12-16- thus the scanned image is stored in the web server after it is scanned)**

wherein the scanning and/or printing unit prints the scanned result directly read from the storage units. **(Fig. 8 shows clearly a connection between Printer 40 and server 20)**

Claim 10, Mitsubori discloses an image forming apparatus wherein the scanning and/or printing unit comprises:

a plurality of connectors connecting corresponding ones of the storage units to the scanning and/or printing unit. **(Fig. 2 shows that printing and scanning unit connects ROM and RAM)**

Claim 11, Mitsubori discloses wherein the scanning and/or printing unit further comprises an input/output port **(Section 0116, lines 9-10- thus the network interface 128 is used to receive and transmit images)** and a scanning/printing control unit **a (Unit 11 shown in Fig. 2)** outputting the scanned result to the storage units through the input/output port **Section 0116, lines 7-10- thus the scanned image data is transmitted through the network interface to other external equipment for further processing)** and corresponding ones of the connectors, and printing the scanned result inputted from the storage units through the input/output port and the corresponding ones of the connectors. **(Printer 11 shown in Fig. 2, Section 0115- thus printer 40 prints the scanned images and therefore it has to go through its corresponding connector to get to its storage)**.

Claim 12, Mitsubori discloses wherein the scanning and/or printing control unit further comprises a display unit **(fig. 19 is a display that shows the list of scanned images)** displaying the scanned result scanned from the document and read and inputted from the storage units through the input/output port, and a key unit generating at least one of a searching signal, **(Section 0123, lines 8-11- thus the user press the virtual button to search for the image data to be outputted from the web)** a deleting signal, and a selecting signal, and the scanning control unit scrolls the scanned result displayed on the display unit **(Section 0126 lines 28-31- thus the Fig. 19 shows scanned images)** according to the searching signal of the key unit, deletes the scanned result according to the deleting signal of the key unit, selects the scanned result according to the selecting signal of the key unit, **(Section 0126, lines 28-31- thus the user uses the virtual buttons to the select one of the image data outputted as shown clearly in Fig. 17.)** and generates a first control signal to control the display unit to display the scanned result scanned from the document and a second control signal to control the display unit to display the scanned result and inputted from the storage units through the input/output port. **(Fig. 19 shows a display that outputs files or images that has been scanned as a result of the user pressing the virtual button which generated a control signal).**

Claim 13, Mitsubori discloses a method of an image forming apparatus, the method comprising:

scanning a document in a scanning and/or printing unit **(El. 11 Fig. 2 is a unit that can scan and print as well)** storing a scanned result in a plurality of storage units **(Section 0100 lines 10-12- thus the scanned images are stored in either ROM 112 or hard disk 114)** reading the scanned result from the storage units **(Section 0100, lines 3-5, thus the scanned image are temporarily stored and therefore it is read out eventually)** and printing the scanned result read from the storage unit. **(Section 0115 thus the scanned result is printed out from Memory)**

Claim 39, Mitsubori discloses a scanning and printing apparatus, **(El. 11 Fig. 2 is a unit that can scan and print as well)** comprising: a main body **(fig. 2 shows that El 11 is a main body)** a scanning unit **(Document Scanning unit 116 shown in fig. 2)** disposed in the main body scanning a document to output a scanned result. **(Section 0116, lines 5-7-thus the scanned results are read out into the memory 113).**

a printing unit disposed in the main body printing the scanned result; **(Section 0115 thus the printer 40 prints the scanned images)** and

a storage unit selectively connected to one of the scanning unit and the printing unit. **(fig. 8 shows clearly that printers 40a and scanner 12 are selectively connected to server 20- thus understand that Scanner 12 and printers (40 a, b and c) is the same printer 40 and scanner 12 shown in Fig. 8)**

Claim 40, Mitsubori discloses wherein the storage unit is directly attached to the scanning unit without interference of a processing unit disposed outside of the scanning and printing apparatus. **(Fig. 8 shows clearly a connection between Printer 40 and**

server 20)

Claim 41, Mitsubori discloses wherein the storage unit is detachably connected to the main body. **(Fig. 1 shows that El 11 can be detached or disconnected from the server (storage) and therefore the storage is detachably connected)**

Claim 42, Mitsubori discloses wherein the storage unit is an external storage unit **(as clearly shown in fig. 8 web server 20 is an external unit hence a different unit from the other units)** and a controller **(CPU 121 shown in Fig. 9)** connected to the main body for detecting an attachment state of the external storage unit, **(Section 0122- thus since the image data is transmitted to other external units the unit has to be detected before transmission can take place)** and for storing the scanned result in at least one of the external storage unit **(Server 20 shown in fig. 8)** and an internal storage unit **(RAM 123 is an internal unit)** according to the detected attachment state of the external storage unit.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mitsubori (2002/0114002) in view of Chen (7019869)

Claim 7, Mitsubori discloses all the limitations in Claim 1 but does not disclose wherein the storage unit comprises a universal serial bus (USB) Flash memory stick.

Chen discloses wherein the storage unit comprises a universal serial bus (USB) flash memory stick. **(Col. 6 lines 4-10, Fig. 4, El. 471 and 481- thus El. 471 and 481 shows a USB interface).** Therefore it will be obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art, at the time the invention was made to modify Mitsubori's image apparatus shown in fig. 1 to include Chen's USB interface so that any serial bus adapted device can be used by the apparatus. The motivation for this is to unable different external storages to be attached to the unit.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments filed 08/05/2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

9. Regarding claims 1 and 39 applicant argues that the cited references fail to disclose wherein the storage unit is selectively connected to one of the scanning unit and the printing unit.

10.

In reply, Examiner respectively disagree because Mitsubori discloses clearly wherein the storage unit **(server 20)** is selectively connected to one of the scanning unit and the printing unit, **(fig. 8 shows clearly that printers 40a and scanner 12 are**

selectively connected to server 20 since any of the scanners and printer can be disconnected and connected as well - thus understand that Scanner 12 and printers (40 a, b and c) is the same printer 40 and scanner 12 shown in Fig. 8) Also in fig. 8 that the server can be connected and disconnected from scanner and therefore one skilled in the art can chose to either connect the server and the scanner together or not.

Regarding claim 3, applicant argues that the cited reference fails to disclose a scanning control unit outputting the scanned result to the storage unit through the input/output port and the first connector.

In reply, Examiner found out that even though the applicant is arguing about Claim 3 it has been cancelled.

Regarding Claim 6, applicant argued that the cited reference fails to disclose a "a printing control unit reading the scanned result inputted from the storage unit through the input/output port and the second connector to print the scanned result.

In reply, Examiner respectfully disagrees because a printing control unit reading the scanned result inputted from the storage unit through the input/output port and the second connector to print the scanned result. **(Section 0115- thus the printer prints**

the image data scanned by the scanner and therefore it has to be outputted from the scanned into the printer for it to be printed)

Regarding Claims 9 and 13, applicant argues that the cited references fails to disclose wherein the scanning and/or printing unit prints the scanned result directly read from the storage units. **(Fig. 8 shows clearly a connection between Printer 40 and server 20 and therefore since they are connected data can be directly transmitted in between each other)**

In regards to dependent claims 2-7, 10-12 and 40-42, some of these claims has been canceled by the applicant yet argues the claims.

Conclusion

11. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to AKWASI M. SARPONG whose telephone number is (571)270-3438. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:00pm est.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, King Poon can be reached on 571-272-7440. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/King Y. Poon/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625

AMS
11/18/2007